**The OGC Seeks Participants for Hydrology Domain Working Group Surface Water Interoperability Experiment**

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**Content:**

The Open Geospatial Consortium Inc. (OGC) will launch a Hydrology Domain working group Interoperability Experiment on 16 June, 2010. The initiators of the experiment seek participation by other organizations interested in.

The Surface Water Interoperability Experiment will advance the development of WaterML 2.0 and test its use with various OGC service standards (SOS, WFS, WMS and CSW). It will also contribute to the development of a hydrology domain feature model and vocabularies, which are essential for interoperability in the hydrology domain, although these are not the main focus for the IE.

The main purpose of this experiment is apply and develop WaterML 2.0 such that it sufficiently supports use across three typical hydrological use case scenarios. These are: cross national and organizational jurisdictional surface water data exchange, surface water flow forecasting and quantifying the flow of surface water to coastal systems. The IE will also test implementations of services and clients that are required to support these objectives. The experiences of the participants will be fed into the OGC via change requests (CR) and/or Best Practices for existing standards.

A secondary aim is the encoding and delivery of surfacewater metadata, testing of a basic feature model, and integration with common surfacewater vocabularies.

The OGC members that are acting as initiators of the Interoperability Experiment are list International Office for Water – Sandre, Service Centre Information Technology of the BMVBS, US Geological Survey, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, KISTERS Environmental and Resource Management Software Solutions, disy Informationssysteme GmbH with support from the World Meteorological Organisation.

The planned start date for the Hydrology Domain Surface Water Interoperability Experiment is 15 June, 2010. Applications for participation are due by 12 June, 2010

Contact David Arctur (**darctur@opengeospatial.org**) for further details or to register as a participant.

The OGC(R) is an international industry consortium of more than 385 companies, government agencies, research organizations, and universities participating in a consensus process to develop publicly available interface specifications. OpenGIS(R) Specifications support interoperable solutions that "geo-enable" the Web, wireless and location-based services, and mainstream IT. The specifications empower technology developers to make complex spatial information and services accessible and useful with all kinds of applications. Visit the OGC website at http://www.opengeospatial.org.